



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was irregular, ranging about steady in the East, at least steady elsewhere. Retail demand was light overall with few features present to aid movement. Food service was in a full range, but fairly good for fast food specials. Supplies of all sizes were mixed, yet available. In the parts structure, trading was light to moderate and usually limited to regular commitments. Breast items were in close balance to tight and moving; however, interest was not very active. Wings were available, and dark meat was at least sufficient with light demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .25 cents to 72.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 64.00 cents last year on March 12, 2003.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	229.00
BREASTS - B/S	199.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	103.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	123.00
LEG QUARTERS	38.00
WINGS	125.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail demand was light to fair, best for ads. Food service was fair to moderate, best for fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were well balanced, close for wogs. In the parts structure, trading was fair to fairly good. Breast items were barely adequate to tight and moving, and wings were in good balance. Dark meat was available with mixed interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair at best during midweek trading. Offerings varied by location, but the 3 pound birds ranged adequate to balanced overall. The heavier weights were adequate to available. Retail and distributive movement was light and unaggressive. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, breast items and tenderloins were closely cleared and commanding premiums. Legs, leg quarters and drumsticks were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were adequate to balanced.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was generally steady to instances firm. Offerings were limited for the mixed, mostly light trade interest. Retail demand continued to struggle and was noted as less than expected. Food service demand was in a full range, mostly light to moderate. Floor stocks were at least adequate with some cutbacks noted in order to maintain balance. Weights were mixed. Parts trade was cautious and for the most part inactive as regular commitments satisfy needs. Supplies of all white meat items continued in good balance to occasionally tight and leg items were fully available. The market tone was fully steady to firm with dark meat cuts barely steady to weak.

WESTERN The market tone was fully steady. Offerings remained adequate for current needs. Buyers' interest focused on immediate needs. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good best for parts to cover ads in progress. Floor stocks in good balance with needs. Trade sentiment was barely steady on leg quarters and firm on breast, balance of parts generally steady.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 03/06/04		PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
	2004	2003	
EGGS SET	209,447	207,539	+01
CHICKS PLACED	169,151	165,230	+02

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 209 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 6, 2004. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 169 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 6, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through March 6, 2004 were 1.68 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 17-Apr-04 is estimated at 155.2 million head. This compares to 155.1 million head the previous week and to 154.5 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 146.2 million head and the composite weighted average pr 57.87cents per pound.

MARCH 09, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MARCH 10, 2004

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	916	189.00-266.00	191-195	198.39
TENDERLOINS	411	215.00-257.00	215-218	235.73
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	148	45.00-62.00	45-47	47.17
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	556	31.00-35.00	31-32	31.83
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	878	34.00-39.00	35-37	36.25
WINGS (WHOLE)	284	120.00-126.00	120-122	124.47
WINGS (CUT)	516	134.00-144.00	136-139	138.07
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	142	106.00-127.00	-	113.48

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	946	192.00-266.00	194-196	200.15
TENDERLOINS	176	220.00-263.00	220-225	225.98
BREAST - LINE RUN	64	99.00-105.00	100-103	100.55
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	103	44.00-62.00	44-46	46.95
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	557	29.00-35.00	30-31	30.90
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	838	34.00-40.00	35-37	36.36
WINGS (WHOLE)	284	120.00-126.00	122-125	124.47
WINGS (CUT)	1,109	134.00-144.00	139-142	139.62
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	120	104.00-125.00	-	117.00

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR

 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
63.50 - 71.50	67.09

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
62.00 - 72.50	70.13	67.54

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was noted as light and selective during midweek trading. Offerings of breast items and tenderloins were in very close balance and lack of supply rather than active demand was noted as the main factor in the fully steady to firm undertone on these lines. Legs, leg quarters and drumsticks were at least sufficient. Wings ranged adequate to balanced. Retail and distributive movement was limited. The market tone was fully steady to firm on breast items and tenderloins, at least steady on wings and no better than steady on leg items.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. MARCH 09, 2004

MARCH 10, 2004

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	195	194.19	711,259
TENDERLOINS	210-215	201.59	130,405
BREAST - WITH RIBS	100-101	106.61	98,360
BREAST - LINE RUN	100	101.77	105,960
LEGS	43-44	46.64	321,040
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	34.25	411,267
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	33.86	188,920
THIGHS	42-43	47.14	80,040
B/S THIGHS	116-117	117.93	58,900
WINGS (WHOLE)	114-115	125.26	87,960
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.08	23,640
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	35.23	26,100
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	63.06	29,420

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	195-200	194.42	725,843
TENDERLOINS	215-220	201.54	107,200
BREAST - WITH RIBS	101-102	108.13	115,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	101	102.84	163,440
LEGS	43-44	45.77	322,401
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	34.20	398,042
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	37.45	143,240
THIGHS	42-43	47.77	65,640
B/S THIGHS	116-117	118.23	99,360
WINGS (WHOLE)	114-115	122.43	157,360
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.85	32,560
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	38.10	11,400
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.48	20,480

 INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	03/10	03/09	03/08	03/05	03/08	03/05	03/03	03/01
ALA	3,931	3,951	3,750	4,221	5.21	4.97	3,887	5.26
ARK	5,295	5,438	5,313	4,828	5.08	4.82	5,141	5.11
DELMARVA	1,995	2,140	2,175	2,072	5.52	5.35	2,183	5.55
KY-LA-TN	1,984	1,887	2,011	1,828	5.13	4.77	1,906	5.08
MISS	3,041	3,087	3,064	2,605	5.44	5.41	3,053	5.50
NC	2,482	2,443	2,422	2,608	6.38	6.21	2,391	6.52
TEXAS	2,253	2,230	2,243	2,250	5.06	5.07	2,234	5.14
TOTAL	20,981	21,176	20,978	20,412	5.35	5.18	20,795	5.40
MON-WED	63,534 (A)						62,915 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 10-Mar is estimated to be 31,390,000 up 0.6 percent from a week ago and up 1.8 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,205,000; last year 30,831,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	71-77
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 102-103
	DRY PACK 104-106
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 109
	DRY PACK 105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 93
	DRY PACK 93-95
DUCKS	152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 13-MAR-04

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/13/04 (1)	03/06/04
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	157,083 (2)	154,615
LT HENS	1,381	1,325
HVY HENS	1,398	1,333
CHECK TOTAL	159,862	157,273

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 13-Mar-04 is 157.0 million head compared to 153.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 157.4 million head or 0.4 million more than estimated available. For week of 20-Mar-04 the estimated available is 158.6 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS

(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 03/08/04	169,031	39,627
AM 03/01/04	169,441	39,330
CHG	-410	297
PCT CHG	0	1

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	03/08/04	03/01/04	03/10/03	03/08/04	03/01/04	03/10/03
PACIFIC						
COAST	6,202	5,982	15,260	4,196	4,314	6,089
LOS						
ANGELES	363	366	1,378	2,268	2,161	3,725

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2004

	RANGE	
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	66-71
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	68-78

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 03/09/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	1.00	1.10	1.03	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	1.00	1.25	1.06	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	1.35	1.50	1.43	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.20	1.35	.96	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	3.00	5.25	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS	24						

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending March 5, 2004

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Back & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	64.87	133.06	83.16	12.47	12.47	56.14
High	66.53	137.22	91.48	20.79	16.63	56.14
Mostly	64.87	137.22	91.48	16.63	16.63	56.14

SAN JUAN

Low	64.45	124.75	79.01	12.47	12.47	54.06
High	65.70	133.06	87.32	16.63	16.63	54.06
Mostly	64.87	133.06	83.16	12.47	12.47	54.06

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	64.45	124.75	83.16	12.47	12.47	54.06
High	65.70	133.06	91.48	16.63	16.63	54.06
Mostly	64.87	133.06	83.16	16.63	12.47	54.06

BECERRA

Low	64.87	133.06	83.16	12.47	12.47	56.14
High	66.53	137.22	91.48	16.63	16.63	56.14
Mostly	64.87	137.22	91.48	16.63	12.47	56.14

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was no better than fair and about as expected for mid-week trading. Seller offerings were fully sufficient for trade needs. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied but were mostly desirable to light. Processor schedules were about moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Breast items and tenders were in close balance and clearing. Leg cuts were sufficient, wings were about adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	72-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	79.55
NO. OF BOXES	6,144

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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